



Battleground 2012 (XLIII)

FINAL

STUDY #13040
THE TARRANCE GROUP and LAKE RESEARCH PARTNERS
N = 1,000 Registered "likely" voters
Margin of error \pm 3.1%
Field Dates: May 8-12, 2011
SPLIT SAMPLE A/B

Hello, I'm _____ of The Tarrance Group, a national survey research firm. We're talking to people today about public leaders and issues facing us all. May I please speak with a (male/female) in the household who is registered to vote?

- A. Are you registered to vote in your state?
IF "NO," ASK: Is there someone else at home who is registered to vote?
(IF "YES," THEN ASK: MAY I SPEAK WITH HIM/HER?)

Yes (CONTINUE)
No (THANK AND TERMINATE)

Even though it is a long way off...

- B. What is the likelihood of your voting in the elections to be held in November 2012-- are you extremely likely, very likely, somewhat likely, or not very likely at all to vote?

(CONTINUE)

Extremely Likely 76%
Very Likely 18%
Somewhat Likely 6%
Already voted (DNR).....

(THANK AND TERMINATE)

Not Very Likely
UNSURE (DNR)

(UPELECT)

- C. Are you, or is anyone in your household, employed with an advertising agency, newspaper, television or radio station, or political campaign?

Yes (THANK AND TERMINATE)
No (CONTINUE)

*=less than .5%

Now, thinking for a moment about things in the country--

1. Do you feel things in the country are going in the right direction, or do you feel things have gotten off on the wrong track?

IF CHOICE MADE, ASK: And
do you feel strongly or
somewhat about that?

Right direction/strongly..... 13%
Right direction/somewhat 19%
UNSURE (DNR) 9%
Wrong track/somewhat 11%
Wrong track/strongly..... 49%

(DIRECT)

****ASK OF EVERYONE****

Now, thinking about your feelings about the direction of the country...

2. Would you say that you are:
RANDOMIZE CHOICES

- Angry,
- Excited,
- Hopeful,
- Concerned,
- Frustrated, or
- Something else

about the direction of the country?

Angry 9%
Excited 2%
Hopeful 29%
Concerned..... 34%
Frustrated 22%
Something else..... 4%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR) 1%

(HCREMO)

Now I would like to read you a list of issues that some people from this part of the country have said are important for Congress to focus on. Please listen as I read the list and tell me which one issue you think is most important. **(READ AND ROTATE ISSUES)**

(PROMPT IF COMBINATION/EQUALLY: “BUT IF YOU HAD TO PICK JUST ONE, WHICH WOULD YOU SAY IS MOST IMPORTANT?”)

| | Q3 MOST <u>IMPORTANT</u> |
|--|--------------------------------|
| • The Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan | 5% |
| • Illegal immigration | 3% |
| • Taxes | 2% |
| • Terrorism and homeland security | 2% |
| • Education | 11% |
| • Health care costs | 6% |
| • Government spending and the budget deficit | 20% |
| • The economy and jobs | 28% |
| • Gas and energy prices | 8% |
| • Crisis in Libya | |
| • Medicare and Social Security | 7% |
| • COMBINATION/EQUALLY (DNR) | 7% |
| • OTHER (DNR) | 1% |
| • NONE (DNR) | * |
| • UNSURE (DNR) | 1% |

(MII)

And, thinking again about the 2012 elections...

4. If the election for CONGRESS were being held today, and you had to make a choice, would you be voting for -- **(ROTATE)** –

- the Republican candidate or
- the Democratic candidate, in your Congressional district?

| | | |
|--|------------------------------|-----|
| IF "UNDECIDED", ASK: And which party's candidate do you lean toward at this time? | Republican | 37% |
| | Lean Republican | 5% |
| | UNDECIDED (DNR) | 16% |
| | Lean Democratic | 3% |
| | Democratic | 39% |

(GENERCG)

Now, turning to President Barack Obama...

5. How would you rate the job Barack Obama has been doing as President? Do you approve or disapprove of the job he is doing?

| | | |
|---|---------------------------|-----|
| IF CHOICE MADE, ASK: And do you feel <i>strongly</i> about that? | Approve/strongly | 34% |
| | Approve | 18% |
| | UNSURE (DNR) | 4% |
| | Disapprove | 10% |
| | Disapprove/strongly | 34% |

(BHOJA)

And,

6. Whether you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President, what is your impression of Barack Obama as a person? Do you approve or disapprove of him?

| | | |
|--|---------------------------|-----|
| IF CHOICE MADE, ASK: And do you <i>strongly</i> (approve/disapprove) or <i>somewhat</i> (approve/disapprove)? | Approve/strongly | 48% |
| | Approve/somewhat | 24% |
| | UNSURE (DNR) | 10% |
| | Disapprove/somewhat | 4% |
| | Disapprove/strongly | 15% |

(BHOPA)

Now, still thinking about President Obama...

I am going to read you several issues. For each one, please tell me if you approve or disapprove of the job that President Obama is doing on this issue. Here is the first one...

(RANDOMIZE)

IF CHOICE MADE, ASK: Is that strongly (approve/disapprove) or somewhat (approve/disapprove)?

| | APPROVE | | UNSURE (DNR) | DISAPPROVE | |
|-----|--|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | <u>strng</u> | <u>smwht</u> | | <u>smwht</u> | <u>strng</u> |
| 7. | The economy and jobs (PROMPT: DO YOU APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE OF THE JOB THAT PRESIDENT OBAMA IS DOING ON THIS ISSUE?) | | | | |
| | 17% | 25% | 2% | 16% | 41% |
| 8. | Foreign policy | | | | |
| | 30% | 25% | 6% | 17% | 23% |
| 9. | Terrorism | | | | |
| | 47% | 28% | 3% | 9% | 13% |
| 10. | Dealing with Congress | | | | |
| | 19% | 31% | 7% | 21% | 24% |
| 11. | The federal budget and spending | | | | |
| | 14% | 24% | 2% | 12% | 48% |

(BOJA1-4)

(END RANDOMIZATION)

Thinking about issues in a different way...

SPLIT SAMPLE A

Now, I would like to read you a list of issues that some people from this part of the country have said are important for the Congress to deal with. Please listen as I read the list and tell me, for each one, who will better handle this issue -- (ROTATE) • **Republicans in Congress or Democrats in Congress.** Here is the first one:
(RANDOMIZE)

| | <u>GOP IN CONG</u> | <u>DEM IN CONG</u> | <u>BOTH (DNR)</u> | <u>NEITHER (DNR)</u> | <u>UNSURE (DNR)</u> |
|---|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 12A. Turning the economy around (PROMPT: WHO DO YOU THINK WILL BETTER HANDLE THIS ISSUE - - (ROTATE) REPUBLICANS IN CONGRESS OR DEMOCRATS IN CONGRESS?) | 45% | 40% | 4% | 6% | 6% |
| 13A. Creating jobs | 45% | 40% | 4% | 6% | 6% |
| 14A. Sharing your values | 43% | 44% | 3% | 5% | 5% |
| 15A. Controlling the deficit | 51% | 32% | 3% | 8% | 6% |
| 16A. Health care | 43% | 45% | 3% | 4% | 6% |
| 17A. Social Security | 41% | 45% | 2% | 6% | 6% |
| 18A. Safeguarding America from terrorism | 47% | 32% | 9% | 6% | 7% |

(HAND1A-7A)

(END RANDOMIZATION)

SPLIT SAMPLE B

Now, I would like to read you a list of issues that some people from this part of the country have said are important for the Congress to deal with. Please listen as I read the list and tell me, for each one, who will better handle this issue -- (ROTATE) • **Republicans in Congress or President Obama.** Here is the first one:
(RANDOMIZE)

| | <u>GOP IN CONG</u> | <u>PRES OBAMA</u> | <u>BOTH (DNR)</u> | <u>NEITHER (DNR)</u> | <u>UNSURE (DNR)</u> |
|--|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 12B. Turning the economy around (PROMPT: WHO DO YOU THINK WILL BETTER HANDLE THIS ISSUE - - (ROTATE) REPUBLICANS IN CONGRESS OR PRESIDENT OBAMA?) | 42% | 48% | 1% | 4% | 6% |
| 13B. Creating jobs | 43% | 47% | 1% | 4% | 5% |
| 14B. Sharing your values | 38% | 51% | 1% | 5% | 5% |
| 15B. Controlling the deficit | 47% | 44% | * | 5% | 3% |
| 16B. Health care | 41% | 52% | * | 3% | 3% |
| 17B. Social Security | 37% | 50% | 2% | 4% | 7% |
| 18B. Safeguarding America from terrorism | 34% | 55% | 3% | 3% | 6% |

(HAND1B-7B)

(END RANDOMIZATION)
(END SPLIT SAMPLE)

Thinking specifically about terrorism...

19. Does the death of Osama Bin Laden make you more likely or less likely to vote for Barack Obama in 2012? Or will it make no difference in your vote?

IF CHOICE IS MADE, ASK:

| | | |
|---|----------------------------|-----|
| And is that strongly or somewhat (more likely/less likely)? | More likely/strongly | 8% |
| | More likely/somewhat..... | 4% |
| | UNSURE (DNR) | 1% |
| | No Difference | 84% |
| | Less likely/somewhat | * |
| | Less likely/strongly | 3% |

(OLML)

And, still thinking about this issue...

20. Which of the following statements best describes your view on the impact that the death of Osama Bin Laden will have on terrorism worldwide:

- Terrorism will be significantly diminished worldwide,
- Terrorism will be diminished only in the United States,
- There will be no impact on terrorism, OR
- There will be an increase in terrorism.

Terrorism diminished worldwide..... 12%
Terrorism diminished in the US..... 6%
No impact on terrorism 40%
Increase in terrorism..... 33%
COMBINATION (DNR)..... 1%
NONE (DNR)..... 2%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR) 6%

(TERIMP)

And, one last question on this issue...

21. Who do you think deserves more credit for the death of Osama Bin Laden? Would you say it is:
(ROTATE FIRST TWO CHOICES)

- President George W. Bush
- President Barack Obama, OR
- Both equally?

President George W. Bush..... 12%
President Barack Obama..... 39%
Both equally..... 41%
NONE (DNR)..... 6%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR) 2%

(TERCRED)

Now, thinking about the federal government and fiscal policy...

As you may know, the federal government has a limit on how much debt it can incur. The Treasury Secretary estimates that this limit will be reached in August. Exceeding this limit requires a vote of approval from Congress. If Congress does not approve an increase in this limit, the US could default on its debts and be unable to pay its creditors.

22. Which of the following best describes the implications you believe will occur if Congress does NOT vote to raise the debt limit:

(ROTATE CHOICES)

- It will be disastrous to the U.S. economy, OR
- It will not have a serious impact on the U.S. economy

Disastrous 56%
Not a serious impact..... 32%
COMBINATION (DNR)..... 1%
ALL OF THE ABOVE (DNR)..... *
NONE (DNR)..... 2%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR) 8%

(DEBTIMP)

23. On a scale from 1 to 10 where 1 is not at all worried and 10 is extremely worried, how worried are you that the United States will suffer another economic downturn which will negatively affect your family?

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|--|------------------|
| <u>Not at all</u> | | | | | | | | | | | <u>Extremely</u> |
| <u>Worried</u> | | | | | | | | | | | <u>Worried</u> |
| 3% | 2% | 5% | 6% | 17% | 10% | 15% | 18% | 7% | 18% | | |

(ECONWOR)

Still thinking about the economic future...

24. Do you believe that the next generation will be better off economically than the current generation?

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| <u>IF CHOICE MADE, ASK:</u> | |
| And do you feel strongly about that? | Yes/strongly 13% |
| | Yes 9% |
| | UNSURE (DNR) 4% |
| | No 15% |
| | No/strongly 58% |

(ECONFUT)

Now, thinking about the economy as a whole....

25. Who or what do you think is most to blame for the recent spike in gas prices? Would you say it is: (RANDOMIZE)

| | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oil and gas companies, • The Obama administration, • Congress, • Oil exporting nations, OR • The economic cycle. | <p>Oil and gas companies..... 38%</p> <p>The Obama administration..... 12%</p> <p>Congress 7%</p> <p>Oil exporting nations 22%</p> <p>The economic cycle..... 11%</p> <p>COMBINATION (DNR)..... 3%</p> <p>ALL OF THE ABOVE (DNR)..... 2%</p> <p>NONE (DNR)..... 4%</p> <p>UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR) 3%</p> |
|--|---|

(OILCAU)

Now, thinking about the health care reform law that was passed last year...

26. Do you favor or oppose repealing and replacing this national health care reform law?

| | |
|--|---------------------------|
| <u>IF CHOICE IS MADE, ASK:</u> | |
| And do you strongly (Favor/Oppose) or somewhat (Favor/Oppose)? | Favor/strongly..... 37% |
| | Favor/somewhat 12% |
| | UNSURE (DNR) 9% |
| | Oppose/somewhat 12% |
| | Oppose/strongly..... 30% |

(HCRFAV)

And,

27. Do you think this national health care reform law:
(ROTATE, TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP)

- Went too far,
- Did not go far enough, OR
- Was about right?

Went too far 46%
Did not go far enough..... 26%
Was about right..... 21%
COMBINATION (DNR)..... *
NONE (DNR)..... 1%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR) 6%

(HCRIMP)

Now, thinking ahead to the 2012 Presidential elections...

As you may know, Obama has announced that he is running for reelection in 2012.

28. Would you say -- **(ROTATE, FRONT TO BACK, BACK TO FRONT)** – you will definitely vote for him, you will consider voting for him, or you definitely will not vote for him?

Definitely vote for Obama 30%
Consider voting for Obama..... 29%
Definitely will not vote for Obama..... 38%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR) 3%

(BHOVT)

Now, still thinking about the Presidential election to be held in November 2012...

(ROTATE Qs 29-30)

29. If the election were held today and you had to make a choice, for whom would you vote...
(ROTATE NAMES)

-- Mitt Romney, the Republican,

or

-- Barack Obama, the Democrat?

IF "UNDECIDED", ASK:

And which candidate do you lean toward slightly?

IF CHOICE MADE, ASK:

Would you say that you are definitely going to vote for him, or probably going to vote for him?

Romney/definitely 27%
Romney/probably 11%
Romney/lean 2%

UNDECIDED (DNR)..... 9%

Obama/lean 1%
Obama/probably 11%
Obama/definitely 40%

(BOMRBAL)

And,

30. If the elections were held today and you had to make a choice, for whom would you vote...
(ROTATE NAMES)

-- Tim Pawlenty (PAW-len-tee), the Republican,

or

-- Barack Obama, the Democrat?

IF "UNDECIDED", ASK:

And which candidate do you lean toward slightly?

IF CHOICE MADE, ASK:

Would you say that you are definitely going to vote for him, or probably going to vote for him?

Pawlenty/definitely 25%
Pawlenty/probably 11%
Pawlenty/lean..... 2%

UNDECIDED (DNR)..... 11%

Obama/lean 2%
Obama/probably 10%
Obama/definitely 40%

(BOTPBAL)

And, thinking now about Donald Trump....

31. Donald Trump has indicated that he is considering running for President. If he does run for President, do you believe that he has any chance of being elected President?

Yes26%
No71%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR)3%

(DTCH)

Now, just a few final questions for statistical purposes only --

D1. What is your age, please?

18-24 10%
25-29 7%
30-34 7%
35-39 9%
40-44 12%
45-54 18%
55-64 17%
65-69 5%
70-74 5%
75-79 4%
80-84 3%
85-89 1%
90 or over 1%
REFUSED 1%

(ACTAGE)

D2. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

(DO NOT READ, JUST RECORD)

| | |
|---|-----|
| Some grade school (1-8) | 1% |
| Some high school (9-11) | 3% |
| Graduated high school (12)..... | 19% |
| Technical/vocational (12)..... | 4% |
| Some college (13-15) | 24% |
| Graduated college (16)..... | 28% |
| Graduate/professional school (16 or more) | 20% |
| Unsure/Refused | * |

(EDUC)

D3. When thinking about politics and government, do you consider yourself to be...

(READ LIST, ROTATE TOP TO BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP)

| | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| Very conservative..... | 20% |
| Somewhat conservative..... | 37% |
| MODERATE (DNR) | 2% |
| Somewhat liberal..... | 26% |
| Very liberal | 11% |
| UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR) | 3% |

(IDEOL)

D4. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, or an Independent?

IF REPUBLICAN OR DEMOCRAT,

ASK: Would you call yourself a strong or a not very strong (Republican/Democrat)?

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| Republican/strong..... | 19% |
| Republican/not strong | 11% |
| Lean Republican..... | 10% |

Independent

| | |
|---------------------------|-----|
| Lean Democrat | 6% |
| Democrat/not strong | 12% |
| Democrat/strong | 25% |

IF INDEPENDENT OR ANYTHING

ELSE, ASK: Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican or Democratic Party?

| | |
|----------------------------|----|
| NO PREFERENCE (DNR) | 1% |
| OTHER (DNR) | * |
| UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR) | 1% |

(PARTYID)

D5. Do you consider yourself a part of or do you identify with the Tea Party movement?

IF CHOICE MADE, ASK:

And do you feel strongly about that?

| | |
|--------------------|-----|
| Yes/strongly..... | 15% |
| Yes | 9% |
| UNSURE (DNR) | 5% |
| No..... | 22% |
| No/strongly | 49% |

(TEAMEM)

Now, thinking about the election for President that was held in 2008 --

D6. Which candidate for President of the United States did you vote for? Was it -- **(ROTATE)** -- •John McCain, or Barack Obama?

John McCain..... 41%
Barack Obama 48%
Ralph Nader **(DNR)**
OTHER **(DNR)** 5%
REFUSED **(DNR)**..... 5%
UNSURE **(DNR)** 1%

(PRES08)

D7. Which of these statements best describes how you have usually voted in past elections?

**(READ LIST, ROTATE TOP TO
BOTTOM, BOTTOM TO TOP)**

Straight Republican9%
Mostly Republican27%
A few more Republicans than Democrats.....11%
INDEPENDENT/THE PERSON **(DNR)**3%
A few more Democrats than Republicans.....7%
Mostly Democratic23%
Straight Democratic.....17%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR)4%

(PARTY)

D8. Are you a member of a labor union, including trade unions, service employee unions, public employee unions, and teachers unions?

IF NO, THEN ASK: Is anyone in your household a member of one of these types of labor unions?

Labor Union Member 14%
Labor Union Household 4%
Non-Union Household 81%
UNSURE/REFUSED **(DNR)** 1%

(UNION)

D9. What is your current marital status -- are you -- • single and never married, • married, • separated, • divorced, or •widowed?

Single 23%
Married 58%
Separated 1%
Divorced 10%
Widowed 8%
UNSURE/REFUSED **(DNR)** *

(MARITAL)

D10. Do you have children under the age of 18 living at home?

Yes 35%
No..... 65%
UNSURE/REFUSED **(DNR)** *

(CHILD)

D11. What is the church you or your family attends most often?
IF BAPTIST, ASK: Is that Southern Baptist or some other Baptist church?
(DO NOT READ RESPONSES, JUST RECORD)

| | | | |
|---|----|-----------------------------------|-----|
| AME (Africa Methd. Episcopal)..... | 1% | Lutheran | 6% |
| Assemblies of God | * | Mennonite | |
| Baptist/American | 3% | Methodist/United Methodist | 5% |
| Baptist/Missionary or Indep. or Primitive or other | 3% | Mormon/Latter Day Saints..... | 2% |
| Baptist/Southern | 7% | Nazarene | 1% |
| Bible Church..... | | Non-denominational..... | 6% |
| Christian Church..... | 6% | Other Protestant..... | 1% |
| Christian Reformed Church | * | Pentecostal/Charismatic | 1% |
| Church of Christ | 1% | Presbyterian/United Presb..... | 3% |
| Church of God | 1% | Quaker/Amish | |
| Disciples of Christ | * | Reformed Church in America | * |
| Episcopalian | 1% | Roman Catholic..... | 22% |
| Evangelical | 1% | Seventh Day Adventist..... | 1% |
| Friends | | United Church of Christ | 1% |
| Fundamentalist | | OTHER (SPECIFY)..... | 4% |
| Eastern/Greek Orthodox..... | * | None (TO D11)..... | 20% |
| Jewish | 1% | DK/REFUSED (TO D11)..... | 4% |

(DENOM)

IF ANY RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION IN D10, ASK:

D11-1. And how often do you attend church (or synagogue)?

| | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| More than once a week..... | 16% |
| Once a week | 36% |
| Several times a month..... | 16% |
| Once a month..... | 8% |
| Several times a year..... | 13% |
| Only on holidays..... | 8% |
| NEVER/DON'T ATTEND | 2% |
| UNSURE/REFUSED | 1% |

(DENOMFRQ)

IF ANY RELIGION NAMED IN D10 EXCEPT CODE 17, THEN ASK:

D11-2. Do you consider yourself to be a born-again or evangelical Christian?

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| Born-again/evangelical..... | 44% |
| Not born-again..... | 50% |
| REFUSED (DNR)..... | 6% |

(BORN)

****ASK OF EVERYONE****

D12. What do you consider to be your race? Are you white, African-American, Hispanic, Asian, Native American or some other race?

White..... 77%
Black/African-American 12%
Hispanic/Latino (TO D12)..... 6%
Asian/Pacific American..... 1%
Native American..... 1%
Other (Specify _____)..... *
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR) (TO D12) 3%

(RACE)

FOR ALL RESPONSES EXCEPT "HISPANIC/LATINO," ASK:

D21-1. And, do you consider yourself a Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish-speaking American?

Yes 3%
No..... 96%
UNSURE/REFUSED (DNR) 1%

(HISP)

*****ASK OF EVERYONE*****

D13. Sex/Emp (BY OBSERVATION)

ASK OF EVERYONE: Are you employed outside the house, are you a homemaker, or are you retired?

Male/employed 30%
Male/homemaker..... 1%
Male/retired 12%
Male/not in labor force 5%

Female/employed 28%
Female/homemaker 10%
Female/retired..... 12%
Female/not in labor force 3%

MALE/REFUSED (DNR) *
FEMALE/REFUSED (DNR) *

(SEXEMP)

D14. RECORD REGION CODE FROM SAMPLE _____

D15. RECORD STATE/COUNTY CODE FROM SAMPLE _____

D16. RECORD DMA FROM SAMPLE _____

D17. RECORD CD CODE FROM SAMPLE _____

D18. RECORD URBAN/SUBURBAN/RURAL CODE _____
